

REMARKS

These remarks are set forth in response to the Final Office Action. As this amendment has been timely filed in conjunction with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) within the three-month statutory period, neither an extension of time nor a fee is required. Presently, claims 1 through 19 are pending in the Patent Application. Claims 1, 8, and 15 are independent claims. In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected each of claims 1 through 5, 7 through 12 and 14 through 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent Publication No 2001/0025299 by Chang et al. (Chang).

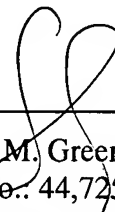
Also, in the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 6 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang in view of the Official Notice taken for the use of an Enterprise Java Bean (EJB) to facilitate the transfer of information. The Examiner yet further rejected claims 1 through 5, 7 through 12 and 14 through 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,247,615 to Mori et al. (Mori) in view of Chang. Finally, the Examiner rejected claims 6 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori in view of Chang and further in view of the Official Notice taken in respect to the use of an EJB to transfer information.

At the outset, the Applicant expresses appreciation for the helpful personal interview conducted in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on January 31, 2006. In that interview, the Applicant and the Examiners achieved an understanding with respect to the foregoing rejections as stated in the Interview Summary of that same day. As such, the Applicant has set forth herein claim amendments consistent with the achieved understanding, including the amendment of claims 1, 2, 8, 9 and 15.

The Applicant believes that all of the claim amendments are supported by the plain text of the Patent Application and accompanying drawings. Consequently, care has been taken not to add new matter in light of the presented claim amendments. In view of the understanding achieved at the personal interview, therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a). This entire application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. The Applicants request that the Examiner call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any matter within this Amendment, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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